# **OPEN MEETING**

#### MEMORANDUM



TO:

THE COMMISSION

FROM:

Utilities Division

DATE:

February 11, 2015

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AZ CORP COMMISSION DOCKET CONTROL

RE:

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF VALLEY CONNECTIONS, L.L.C.

FOR APPROVAL OF RESCISSION OF BOND REQUIREMENT CONTAINED IN

DECISION NO. 66846 (DOCKET NO. T-04169A-14-0404)

#### Introduction

ORIGINAL

On December 10, 2014, Valley Connections, L.L.C. ("Valley Connections" or "Applicant") submitted an Application requesting rescission of the \$235,000 performance bond requirement contained in Decision No. 66846.

## Background

On March 12, 2004, in Decision No. 66846, the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") ordered Valley Connections to procure and file proof of a performance bond equal to \$235,000. As noted in its Application, Valley Connections currently has in place a \$235,000 Escrow Deposit Bond (No. PAIFSU 0382166) issued by International Fidelity Insurance Company and effective until June 22, 2015. The Applicant also indicated in its Application that Decision No. 66846 did not require Valley Connections to deposit the bond with the Commission. Staff has confirmed that the Business Office is not in possession of any bond documentation for Valley Connections. On January 15, 2015, a copy of the current bond was filed with Docket Control.

### Compliance

According to the Corporations Division, Valley Connections is in good standing. The Consumer Services Section of the Utilities Division reports there have been no complaints or opinions about Valley Connections for the period of January 1, 2011 to December 19, 2014. A check of the Compliance Database by the Compliance Section of the Utilities Division indicates there are no delinquencies for Valley Connections; therefore Valley Connections is currently in compliance.

#### Staff Recommendations

The Commission has, in appropriate circumstances, relieved telecommunications providers of the obligation to maintain a performance bond. Staff recommends Valley Connections be relieved of the \$235,000 performance bond obligation contained in Decision No. 66846.

Arizona Corporation Commission

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THE COMMISSION February 2, 2015 Page 2

The Applicant states that, in order to release the performance bond and associated documents, it is sufficient for the Commission to include in an ordering paragraph language authorizing the Applicant to cancel, rescind, discontinue and be released from the performance bond required by Decision No. 66846.

Steven M. Olea

Director

Utilities Division

SMO:PJG:vsc\BH

ORIGINATOR: Pamela Genung

1	BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
2	SUSAN BITTER SMITH
3	Chairman BOB STUMP
4	Commissioner BOB BURNS
5	Commissioner DOUG LITTLE
6	Commissioner TOM FORESE
7	Commissioner
8	IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION) DOCKET NO. T-04169A-14-0404
9	OF VALLEY CONNECTIONS, L.L.C. FOR) APPROVAL OF RESCISSION OF BOND DECISION NO
10	REQUIREMENT CONTAINED IN <u>ORDER</u> DECISION NO. 66846
11	
12	
13	Open Meeting March 2 and 3, 2015 Phoenix, Arizona
14	BY THE COMMISSION:
15	FINDINGS OF FACT
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17	1. On December 10, 2014, Valley Connections, L.L.C. ("Valley Connections" or
18	"Applicant") submitted an Application requesting rescission of the \$235,000 performance bond
19	requirement contained in Decision No. 66846.
20	Background
21	2. On March 12, 2004, in Decision No. 66846, the Arizona Corporation Commission
22	("Commission") ordered Valley Connections to procure and file proof of a performance bond equal
23	to \$235,000. As noted in its Application, Valley Connections currently has in place a \$235,000 Escrow
24	Deposit Bond (No. PAIFSU 0382166) issued by International Fidelity Insurance Company and
25	effective until June 22, 2015. The Applicant also indicated in its Application that Decision No. 66846
26	did not require Valley Connections to deposit the bond with the Commission. Staff has confirmed
27	that the Business Office is not in possession of any bond documentation for Valley Connections. On
28	January 15, 2015, a copy of the current bond was filed with Docket Control.

### Compliance

3. According to the Corporations Division, Valley Connections is in good standing. The Consumer Services Section of the Utilities Division reports there have been no complaints or opinions about Valley Connections for the period of January 1, 2011 to December 19, 2014. A check of the Compliance Database by the Compliance Section of the Utilities Division indicates there are no delinquencies for Valley Connections; therefore Valley Connections is currently in compliance.

## **Staff Recommendations**

- 4. The Commission has, in appropriate circumstances, relieved telecommunications providers of the obligation to maintain a performance bond. Staff recommends Valley Connections be relieved of the \$235,000 performance bond obligation contained in Decision No. 66846.
- 5. The Applicant states that, in order to release the performance bond and associated documents, it is sufficient for the Commission to include in an ordering paragraph language authorizing the Applicant to cancel, rescind, discontinue and be released from the performance bond required by Decision No. 66846.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Valley Connections, L.L.C. is a public service corporation within the meaning of Article XV of the Arizona Constitution.
- 2. The Commission has jurisdiction over Valley Connections, L.L.C. and the subject matter in this filing.
- The Commission, having reviewed the filing and Staff's Memorandum dated February
   2015, concludes that it is in the public interest to approve the Valley Connections, L.L.C.
   Application as proposed and discussed herein.

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Decision No.

ORDER 1 2 IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Application of Valley Connections, L.L.C. to 3 terminate the performance bond requirement contained in Decision No. 66846 be and hereby is 4 approved. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Valley Connections, L.L.C. may cancel, rescind, 5 discontinue and be released from any performance bond or other instrument obtained in compliance 6 7 with the performance bond requirements set by Decision No. 66846. 8 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately. 9 BY THE ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 10 11 **CHAIRMAN** COMMISSIONER 12 13 14 COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER 15 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, JODI JERICH, Executive 16 Director of the Arizona Corporation Commission, have hereunto, set my hand and caused the official seal of this 17 Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of 18 Phoenix, this \_\_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2015. 19 20 JODI JERICH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 21 22 DISSENT: 23 DISSENT: 24 SMO:PJG:vsc\BH 25 26 27 28 Decision No.

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Decision No.

Docket No. T-04169A-14-0404